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 FIRM: United States Patent and Trademark Office
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 Group Art Unit: 3679

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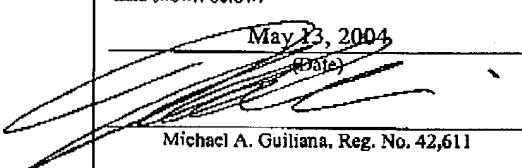
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AMENDMENT / RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

Applicant : Stephen Albertson et al.
 App. No. : 09/585,134
 Filed : June 1, 2000
 For : CATEGORIZING
 FASTENERS AND
 CONSTRUCTION
 CONNECTORS USING
 VISUAL IDENTIFIERS
 Examiner : Wilson, Neill R.
 Art Unit : 3679

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May 13, 2004
(Date)

Michael A. Giuliana, Reg. No. 42,611

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Sir:



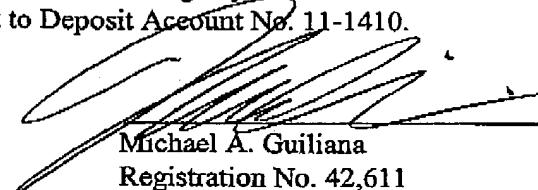
Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application are the following enclosures:

- (X) Supplemental Response in 2 pages.
- (X) The present application qualifies for small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

FEE CALCULATION				
FEE TYPE		FEE CODE	CALCULATION	TOTAL
Total Claims	38 - 38 = 0	2202 (\$9)	0 x 9 =	\$0
Independent Claims	6 - 0 = 0	2201 (\$43)	0 x 43 =	\$0
			TOTAL FEE DUE	\$0

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stephen Albertson et al.
 Appl. No. : 09/585,134
 Filed : June 1, 2000
 For : CATEGORIZING FASTENERS
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Dear Sir:

Supplemental to the Amendment filed March 23, 2004, applicant submits the following remarks in connection with the above-captioned application.

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Wilson for the courteous interview extended to applicants' counsel, Michael A. Giuliana, on April 22, 2004. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the Amendment filed March 23, 2004 appears to overcome all of the outstanding issues with respect to the outstanding office action.

However, during the interview, Examiner Wilson indicated that it would helpful if Applicants submitted comments as to the relevance of U.S. Patent No. 5,511,917 issued to Dickson. In response, Applicants' counsel agreed to submit comments regarding the Dickson reference to the effect that the Dickson reference teaches one form of the prior art discussed in the Background section of the present application. For example, as set forth in the present application from page 2, line 17 through page 3, line 2:

Prior attempts to solve this problem have been unsuccessful. For example, one such attempt is described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,511,917 issued to Charles F. Dickson, the entirety of which is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth